

hard at work interviewing & memorializing Mr. M. in preparation for the coming session. Our dangerous Premier Rupt is all in excitement as to what he may commit the Country to as regards the Eastern question. It is a grand national crisis - fortunate that we have such a man at the head of affairs just now. But the country is thoroughly alive to the danger the may find this thing. He is an officer and the is still in power. With Richard I have been too much occupied to acknowledge hitherto. I have also to thank your father for sending me the copy of the Womens Journal with his letter to our Union, & the New York Times containing his admirable utterance on the situation in America. You mention another N. of the Womens Journal containing an account of the Geneva Congress by Mrs Julia Ward Howe: this has not been delivered, & if you could without inconvenience send me another copy I should be greatly obliged. It was my good fortune to make Mrs Howes acquaintance at Geneva, & of all the agreeable & distinguished people to whom I was introduced there I think I was more interested in her than in any other. There is something remarkably winning in

P. F. K. Arthur

her manner; her musical voice has the power of enhancing the value of the clear opinions she speaks so eloquently. I sat by her at several of the meetings, & the little talk we had together made me long to know more of her. She seems to have the making of a true heroine. We want more such in Europe, & you can spare some, for I think you have a larger proportion of such women than we have. — But I am not indeed going to disparage our own ladies, as you know I have every reason to appreciate them most highly, & I do. Especially do I believe that in Berlin we are exceptionally favoured as to the public work they are willing to undertake. You may be interested to hear of some in which my sister & I are specially interested. A short time ago the Health Committee of the Town Council took up the question of Infants' Mortality & a sub-committee of us presented a Report on the subject. We found that fully half the fearful total was due to preventable causes, a ^{large} proportion of which could be removed by the mothers being better educated

as to diet & management of their children. It was obviously not in our power to remove this ignorance ourselves. It could be only, or at least best, done by ladies. There was an "Association for Useful Work" here, among ladies, one of whose functions was the delivery of lectures on Health subjects by its members to working women. We recommended that this action should be extended as widely as possible. A meeting of the Health Committee & the ladies took place at my house, when measures were concerted to give publicity to their work by a public meeting. It happened that Henry J. Wilson was coming to stay with me that night, & he was present at the discussion. He said he almost despaired of ever getting such a set of ladies together in Sheffield; still more, of getting a municipal authority to recognize & co-operate with them. - I am happy to say the agitation of the question has brought us much help. My sister is hon. sec. of the Lecture Committee, & has just completed arrangements for the simultaneous delivery of seven courses of lectures on the laws of health by ladies in different parts of the town. Mrs. R. W. Dale

is one of the most popular. We are starting a training class for those who are willing to help in various ways. Some cannot trust themselves to lecture to a large audience, but will address congregational "mother meetings" & assemblies of that sort. I believe it is great & useful work, & is destined to remove a good many of the thousand natural ills that flesh is heir to.

I was extremely interested in the paper your father was so good as to send me about the Whittier Memorial. It was a pretty idea each author bringing his flower to weave a chaplet for the venerable head. Mr. Albright has just sent me the paper with your father's private letter to Mr. Whittier, which is beautiful.

— We shall watch the progress of your nation through its present trials with great interest. I cannot feel dismay at their magnitude; after what you have already surmounted one cannot but feel confidence in your successful issue out of any temporary difficulties.

You are free, & in your liberty have a sure presage of the ultimate triumph of right. I wonder if you see the "Fortnightly Review"; if you can, I commenced "Home & Foreign Affairs" in the January No. to your perusal.

I have put down your name to have our C.S.A. "Occasional Paper", sent to regularly. We are

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